

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A junction for joining at least one first section of conduit to at least one second section of conduit, the junction comprising:

a body, having at least one first connecting portion for connecting a respective first section of conduit to said body and at least one second connecting portion for connecting a second respective section of conduit to said body, the body defining a volume extending between at least one said first connecting portion and at least one second connecting portion, and having at least one aperture allowing access to said volume;

at least one lid engagable with said body and adapted to close the or each aperture; and

at least one earth connector located within said body and having at least one channel adapted to receive at least one earthed electrical cable in electrical contact with said body.

2. (Original) A junction according to claim 1, wherein at least one said connecting portions is a threaded aperture adapted to receive a respective conduit section, said conduit section having a substantially circular cross-section.

3. (Currently amended) A junction according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said channel is tubular.

4. (Currently amended) A junction according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said channel has a cross-section and an upper portion of said cross section is open.

5. (Currently amended) A junction according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said channel has at least one access aperture.

6. (Original) A junction according to claim 5, wherein said channel has a first access aperture and a second access aperture, said access apertures being connected by said channel.

7. (Original) A junction according to claim 6, wherein said channel between said first and second access apertures is substantially linear.

8. (Original) A junction according to claim 6, wherein said channel between said first and second access apertures is substantially U-shaped.

9. (Currently amended) A junction according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said electrical contact with said body is maintained by a cable retainer.

10. (Original) A junction according to claim 9, wherein said cable retainer comprises:

a threaded portion of at least one side of said channel; and  
at least one screw adapted to be received in said threaded portion.

11. (Original) A junction according to claim 9, wherein said cable retainer comprises at least one clamp adapted to engage said earth cable and press said earth cable into contact with said body.

12. (Currently amended) A junction according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said body is cast.

13. (Original) A junction according to claim 9, wherein said earth connector is cast as a part of said body.

14. (Original) A junction for joining at least one first section of conduit to at least one second section of conduit substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

15. (Original) An earthed junction for joining a first and a second cable housing, said junction comprising: a body defining a volume;

a first connector part of said body for receiving said first cable housing;  
a second connector part of said body for receiving said second cable housing; and

an electrical connector part of the body, said electrical connector part having a channel for receiving a conductive part of an earthed wire receivable in the volume and a fastener for retaining the earthed wire in the electrical connector part and to maintain electrical contact between the body and the earthed wire.